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54/11/23 Corrigan Says Dr. Sam Will Testify in Defense

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Corrigan Says Dr. Sam Will Testify in Defense

Chief Defense Counsel William J. Corrigan today punctured courtroom speculation that Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard may dodge the witness stand at his wife murder trial.

"Sam Sheppard will be a witness," Corrigan said flatly. "I've always planned to use him."

The speculation that Dr. Sam might not testify in his own behalf stemmed from the manner in which defense attorneys had meticulously placed in the record every statement made by the accused osteopath during the lengthy investigation of the murder of his wife, Marilyn.

When Corrigan unsuccessfully sought to obtain Dr. Sam's release on bail after his indictment, he attempted this technique of having his client's words read into the record—without the defendant being subjected to prosecution cross-examination.

Assistant Prosecutor John J.

Mahon has a long list of questions to hurl at the neurosurgeon when he takes the witness oath.

Both Mahon and Corrigan expressed satisfaction at the manner in which the murder trial is progressing.